

**APPLICATION OF LISA PAGE
TO THE APPELLATE JUDICIAL COMMISSION FOR THE
JUDGE NORTON VACANCY
MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS, EASTERN DISTRICT**

***RESPONSES TO THESE QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ATTACHMENTS THERETO,
WILL BE MADE PUBLIC IF THE APPLICANT IS NOMINATED FOR THIS VACANCY***

1. Present principal occupation or title: Circuit Judge
2. Are you at least 30 years of age? Yes (X) No ()
3. (a) How many years have you been a citizen of the United States? 48

(b) How many consecutive years immediately preceding your application have you been a qualified voter of Missouri? 30
4. State the date you were admitted to The Missouri Bar and whether your license is in good standing. If not, explain in detail.

I was admitted on October 23rd, 1997 and my license is in good standing.
5. List any other states, courts, or agencies in which you are licensed as an attorney.

None.
6. (a) State the name and address of all colleges and universities attended, other than law school, together with the dates and degrees received.

Name	Address	Dates Attended	Degree
Southeast Missouri State University	1 University Plaza Cape Girardeau, MO 63701	September 1984- May 1988	Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.
Jefferson College	1000 Viking Dr. Hillsboro, MO 63050	Summer School, 1987	Not applicable

- (b) List/describe any college or university activities, scholastic achievements and other awards or honors you think are relevant to the commission's decision.

Graduated *magna cum laude*

All University Judicial Board
 Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority: President and Membership Chairman
 Served internships with Senator Thomas Eagleton in Washington, D.C.
 and Representative Bill Emerson in Cape Girardeau
 Maintained Presidential Scholarship for four years
 Dean's List all semesters

7. (a) State the name and address of all law schools attended together with the dates and degrees received.

Name	Address	Dates Attended	Degree
Saint Louis University School of Law	221 North Grand St. Louis, MO 63103	August 1994 – May 1997	<i>Juris Doctor</i>

- (b) List/describe any law school activities, scholastic achievements and other awards or honors you think are relevant to the commission's decision.

Graduated *cum laude*

Grade point average of 3.296/Class rank in the top 20%

ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY LAW JOURNAL:

Staff, 1995-1996

Editor, 1996-1997

Faculty Fellowship, Assistant to Professor Carol Needham, 1995-1996

Legal Research and Writing Teaching Assistant, 1995-1996

Received an "A" in Legal Research and Writing, May 1995

Maintained Dean's Scholarship three years

Women's Law Student Association: Treasurer, 1995-1996

Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity

Employment Law Certificate

8. State, in chronological order (starting with the earliest employment) (a) significant non-law-related employment prior to law school and

Employer	Address	Dates of Employment
SSI Global Security Service, Inc.	911 Washington Ave. St. Louis, MO 63101	May 1988-May 1994

(b) all employment from the beginning of law school to the present. To the extent reasonably available to you, include the name and address of each employer and the dates of employment, and, for legal employment, describe the positions you have held, e.g., associate, partner, law clerk, general counsel.

Employer	Address	Dates of Employment	Position
Ralston Purina Company	Checkerboard Square St. Louis, MO 63164	Summer 1996	Summer law clerk
The Page Law Firm	224 Main Street, Festus, MO 63028	October 1997-April 2005	Attorney and mediator
City of Crystal City	130 Mississippi Crystal City, MO 63019	October 2003 – April 2005	Municipal Judge
City of DeSoto	17 Boyd Street DeSoto, MO 63020	October 2003 – April 2005	Municipal Judge

9. If you were a student at any school from which you were suspended, placed on probation, or expelled by school authorities, for any reason, describe the circumstances.

I have never been disciplined by any educational institution I have attended.

10. Describe the nature of your experience in trial and appellate courts and explain how they demonstrate the quality of your legal work. *(You either may take as much space as you need here or attach your response on separate sheets. It is your responsibility to redact any confidential information.)* Include in your response:

- a) Appellate Experience: Please include a representative list of cases you have briefed and/or argued (if you are a judge, include representative cases from your practice prior to your judicial appointment) including, to the extent reasonably available to you, the style, date, and court and, if published, the citation; identify the client(s) you represented and opposing counsel; give a one-paragraph description of the case and your role.

In 2013, I was appointed as a Special Judge to serve on the Missouri Supreme Court in two cases. Later, I was also appointed as a Special Judge to serve on the Eastern District Court of Appeals. I was fascinated by the variety of topics heard on the same day. I spent hours reviewing the case files and analyzing all the relevant case law on each issue in order to make sound decisions. This unique experience taught me that I am well-suited to and will tremendously enjoy the challenging work of the appellate court if I am appointed to the Eastern District Court of Appeals. In private practice, I did not brief or argue cases in the court of appeals.

b) **Trial-Level Experience:** Please include a representative list of cases and/or administrative hearings you have handled (if you are a judge, include representative cases from your practice prior to your judicial appointment) including, to the extent reasonably available to you, the style, date, and court; identify who you represented and opposing counsel; state whether the case was disposed of following a jury trial, bench trial or at what other stage; give a one-paragraph description of the case and your role.

I tried numerous cases in the domestic and juvenile courts. However, as I have been on the bench almost ten (10) years the details are not reasonably available to me.

c) **Judicial Experience:** If you are a judge, commissioner, or are serving or have served in other judicial capacity, please describe the nature and extent of your judicial responsibilities, including the dates you have served as a judge at each level, the types of dockets you have handled, and any special expertise you have developed that you believe is relevant to your qualifications for the position for which you are applying.

Municipal Judge in Crystal City and DeSoto, Missouri; October 2003 through April 2005.

These two positions entailed traditional municipal judicial duties to include traffic, misdemeanors, and city ordinance violations.

Family Court Commissioner; April 2005 through December 2006.

This position was assigned 100% of all civil non-support cases; 100% of all paternity cases and 33 1/3% of all dissolutions filed in Jefferson County.

Circuit Judge; December 2006 through present.

A court of general jurisdiction, my current assignment consists of 25% of filed civil and domestic cases and 50% of filed Department of Revenue cases. I am also the Administrative Judge of the Family Court. This appointment requires supervision of the Jefferson County Juvenile Office, including the budget of that office in very difficult financial times. I am also responsible for all of Jefferson County's domestic programs, including *Guardians ad Litem*, mediation and supervised visitation programs as well as searching for funding sources for all of the programs.

Effective January 1, 2011, I was appointed Presiding Judge for a two-year term. My goal for the first year was to establish a functional, user friendly Law Library given the nearly impossible limitations of the Jefferson County Courthouse. It is now a valuable asset for both attorneys and self-represented litigants.

After the 2012 Spring Presiding Judges' Meeting, the goal for my second year became the establishment of a well-run, highly functioning pro bono program. The Court

en banc established the *Pro Bono* Committee and implemented an effective *pro bono* initiative which served the original purpose in civil and domestic cases. It was later extended to criminal cases to provide substantive relief to the Jefferson County Public Defender's office through the establishment of a local court rule to provide effective assistance of counsel to all indigent litigants.

As the Administrative Judge of the Jefferson County Family Court, I worked with an amazing technology team in the juvenile office to develop a comprehensive plan to take the office paperless with the use of iPads. The genesis of this project was founded, as usual, in an effort to reduce costs so that deputy juvenile officers would no longer have to drive to a judge's residence to have after hours orders signed. The iPads allowed these orders to be securely sent back and forth, eliminating substantial amounts of comp time. However, it has virtually exploded from this initial use. The iPad allows the DJOs to sign in and out of the county's payroll program without coming into the office, giving them greater freedom to spend their time in the field and making much better use of precious resources.

As the Administrative Judge of the Family Court, I believe it is incumbent upon me to be familiar with all Supreme Court Rules and to read every case from every appellate court in this field in order to be a resource for my domestic judges. This includes all dissolution, paternity, juvenile and adoption cases.

In conclusion, my attention to detail as the Administrative Family Court Judge is relevant to this position because I will apply the same work ethic and time dedication to every case that comes to me, whether civil or criminal. One need not specifically know the letter of the law so long as one knows how to research the law and is dedicated to fair and just application of the law to the facts before the court. It is the ultimate beauty of the law.

11. Describe any additional legal experience that you believe may be relevant to the decision of the commission (e.g., work as a law professor, in government, as corporate or other legal counsel).

I completed my ASTAR Fellowship education and became an ASTAR Fellow in December, 2012. ASTAR is an acronym for Advanced Science and Technology Adjudication Resources. This fellowship has given me an understanding of complex scientific issues that face courts today. Many judges, me included, have backgrounds that focus on the written word and not scientific issues. In addition to many hours of self-study on these topics I have attended numerous conferences to educate myself on these issues to become a better judge.

I have been extensively involved with the Missouri Court Management Institute (MCMI). This program was created in 2012 by the Office of State Courts Administrator, working in conjunction with practitioners from the Missouri

judiciary and the National Center for State Courts. With its focus on the purposes and responsibilities of courts, the measurement of court performance, and judicial management of human resources, technology, case flow, and financial resources, MCMI is a year-long program for judges, court administrators, clerks, and juvenile officers and is designed to improve the effectiveness of the legal system and the administration of justice.

My involvement with MCMI has taken a number of different forms. I agreed to teach Purposes and Responsibilities of Courts with Judge Patricia Breckenridge of the Supreme Court. We traveled to the National Center for State Courts in Williamsburg to be trained on the most effective strategies and approaches for teaching this course. For the past three years, Purposes and Responsibilities of Courts has been offered as the initial and foundational course in this very successful program. In addition, I have twice served as a member of the selection committee for MCMI, examining and evaluating hundreds of applications to identify the best participants for the program. Finally, this year I submitted my application to become a participant in MCMI to also become a Certified Court Manager by the National Center for State Courts. It is one thing to be concerned about improving the administration of justice. It is another to take action to make it happen. My participation in MCMI has allowed me to transform my concern into action.

12. List all bar associations and other professional societies of which you are a member, with any offices held and dates.

I am member of the Jefferson County Bar Association, the Jefferson County Women's Bar Association, the Bar Association of St. Louis and the Women's Law Association of St. Louis. I have not held office in these organizations.

13. Describe your efforts (e.g. work on bar committees, pro bono efforts, CLEs presented, etc.) to contribute to the improvement of the law, the legal system and the administration of justice.

I serve on the Missouri Supreme Court Trial Judge Education Committee. I was appointed the chair of the 2014 Advanced Trial Skills seminar. My planning team and I developed a well-received curriculum to teach judges real world techniques to successfully work with high conflict families within the confines of the law.

I was invited to be a speaker for both the Fall and Summer 2010 Judicial Colleges on issues relating to paternity law. I participated in the 2013 Summer Judicial College by interviewing a child subject to critique by a psychologist to teach child interview skills. I served as faculty for the 2014 New Judge Orientation, to include a session on Temporary Restraining Orders.

On May 13, 2015 I will participate as faculty for the Domestic Violence Summit. I was sent to two conferences to learn the latest research on domestic violence issues. I will specifically be presenting on the issue of assessing lethality.

As the Administrative Judge of the Family Court I have an active role in the expansion of Comtrea's current supervised visitation center into a Safe Haven Grant center, focused on families who are surviving domestic violence issues. This grant has entailed two intense training programs and hours of meetings to develop protocols necessary for the successful implementation of this rigorous program with the ultimate goal of ensuring the safety of all family members.

I have worked with the Jefferson County Juvenile Office to develop a new anti-cyber bullying initiative pursuant to a grant from the Office of State Court Administrator. It is in the piloting stage at the Jefferson R-7 School District. It is our hope that this peer based program will not only be implemented in every Jefferson county school district, but could eventually be implemented state wide.

14. List your community activities, including any organizations not listed elsewhere with which you are affiliated.

I believe in giving back to my local community which has given so much to me. I volunteer in both the Festus middle and high school as truancy court judge. I am a member of Hillsboro Rotary Club and served several years as the treasurer. I spend a great deal of time volunteering at both Our Lady School and Parish in any capacity that is allowed by the canons of judicial ethics.

When in private practice I dedicated tremendous amounts of time to various organizations to include, COMTREA, our local community mental health provider both as a board member and volunteer attorney. I was honored to be M.A.R.C.H. (Mediation Achieving Results for Children) Mediation's first President of the Board of Directors. I also worked at a volunteer attorney for Legal Advocates for Abused Women.

I am serving my third and final year as a member of the Our Lady School Board.

In my role as the Truancy Court Judge for the Festus R-6 School District, I am happy to work with a very creative administration to go above and beyond the truancy court model, which I understand only applies to middle school students. In addition to working with the high school students we implemented this program in the intermediate school. The results of this intervention speak for themselves. The students in last year's middle school truancy court did very well this year in high school. We are hoping that earlier intervention will produce similar results in middle school thus improving the student's education earlier.

15. Describe your activities (e.g. speeches, presentations, educational activities, etc.) undertaken to further public understanding of and respect for courts and the judicial system and to promote access to justice for all.

I serve on the Missouri Supreme Court Civic Education Committee. I am the Chairperson of the Development of Presentation and Materials Adult Subcommittee of this Committee. The ultimate goal of this subcommittee is to create presentations to enable judges to educate the public about the judiciary. I also spearhead the Pilot Speakers' Bureau which currently disseminates all completed presentations across the state for testing and report the strengths and weaknesses back to the original development committees for finalization. As part of this project, I personally make the presentations in my community, as well.

16. List any professional articles or books authored by you that have been published or any special recognition or award of a professional nature you have received.

I am currently writing the Paternity Chapter for the Domestic Relations Bench Book with Judge Ellen Levy Siwak.

I have previously been recognized by Legal Advocates for Abused Women for the amount of hours I volunteered in a difficult case.

I received the Judge Richard B. Teitelman Distinguished Service Award "for outstanding service to the community through *pro bono* legal work on August 28, 2013.

I received the Judicial Excellence Award – Circuit from the Missouri Supreme Court on September 11, 2014.

On April 30, 2015 I will receive the Women's Justice Public Official Award from Missouri Lawyer's Weekly.

17. Do you now hold or have you ever held an elective or an appointive public office or position? If yes, provide details.
- a. Appointed Crystal City Municipal Judge, October 2003;
 - b. Appointed DeSoto Municipal Judge, October 2003;
 - c. Appointed Family Court Commissioner, April 2005;
 - d. Elected Circuit Judge, 2006; reelected in 2012.
18. Provide the branches and dates of (a) military service or (b) other public service not otherwise disclosed in this application. If discharged from the military, state whether the discharge was other than honorable.

I did not serve in the military or in any other public service.

19. State whether you are able, with or without a reasonable accommodation, to perform the essential functions of being an appellate judge, including participating in oral argument; performing legal research; communicating clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing; supervising the lower courts, serving on court committees and performing other administrative functions; and expeditiously deciding issues coming before the court.

I am able and willing to perform all functions required of an appellate judge.

20. Were you ever refused admission to the bar of Missouri or the bar of another state or the federal courts? If yes, provide details.

I have not applied to another bar and was accepted by the Missouri bar upon my first application.

21. Have you ever been disciplined, admonished or cited for breach of ethics or professional conduct by the Supreme Court of Missouri or by any court or bar association or committee thereof? If yes, provide details.

I have never been disciplined, admonished or cited for a breach of ethics.

22. If you are or were a member of the judiciary of the State of Missouri, please state:

- a) Whether an order of discipline ever has been entered against you by the Supreme Court of Missouri for breach of the Code of Judicial Conduct or the Canons of Judicial Conduct. If yes, provide details.

I have not had an order of discipline entered against me.

- b) Whether a reprimand or admonition ever has been entered against you by the Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline for any of the causes specified in Supreme Court Rule 12.07. If yes, provide details.

I have not been reprimanded nor admonished by the Commission on Retirement, Removal and Discipline.

23. Have you have ever been held in contempt of court? If yes, provide details.

I have never been in contempt of any court.

24. Have you ever been sued by a client or been a party to any other litigation, other than as guardian ad litem, plaintiff ad litem, or defendant ad litem?

I have not been sued in any capacity.

25. Have you ever been convicted or received a suspended imposition of sentence for a felony or misdemeanor in state, federal or military court? *(Note that this question does not require that traffic offenses or other infractions be listed.)*

If your answer is yes, state the style of the case, where it was filed, and explain in detail.

I do not have a criminal record.

26. Are you delinquent in the payment of any federal, state, county or city taxes? If yes, provide details.

No, I promptly pay my taxes.

27. You must attach to this application at least one, but not more than three, writing samples that comply with the requirements set out in the instructions for applicants.

Attachment One is a judgment I wrote after a civil bench trial. Both parties had excellent expert witnesses arriving at very different conclusions. This judgment required hours of research both before the trial and after. It was not appealed.

Attachment Two is a modification of maintenance judgment. It is an example that the trial judge must know the law before trial to ascertain that counsel for each party meets their burden of proof.

Attachment Three is paternity judgment eventually appealed to the Missouri Supreme Court and on remand, settled on the court's original judgment.

28. List/describe any additional honors or awards you have received, activities you have performed, or any other information not set out above that demonstrates the quality of your work as an attorney or that you otherwise believe is relevant to the commission's decision.

I am currently the President of the Missouri Circuit Judges' Association. As part of my work with this organization, I was appointed to the Judicial Conference Legislative Committee. I work closely with other members of the committee and the legislature on issues of importance to the judiciary.

Please list the names of *five* persons whom you will ask to provide letters of reference for you with respect to your judicial qualifications. Do **not** list as a reference a judge of the court involved. As to each of the (5) references, **please provide name, title, mailing address, telephone and e-mail address.**

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